GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:284
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Development of Agriculture Sector
Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has fixed goals and priorities for all round development of agricultural sector and improvement of the economic conditions of the farmers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has taken initiatives for raising the income of farmers, induction of appropriate marketing of agricultural products, elimination of malnutrition/starvation and unified development of agriculture; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made so far in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 284 DUE FOR REPLY ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2016.

(a): Government has initiated a wide-ranging agricultural development programme for improvement of economic conditions of the farmers. The programme is primarily focused on: improvement of land, water resources, livestock, fisheries; conservation of flora and fauna wealth and animal genetic diversity; better support services related to science and technology application, agricultural bio-security, weather forecasting, climate change; farm input service management; effective credit and insurance support; strengthening extension, training and knowledge connectivity; assured and remunerative marketing opportunities; better agricultural and animal science, education and research; promoting special categories of farmers, special categories of farming, special regions of farming and group farming; attracting youth to farming profession; and developing enabling public policies and institutions.

(b) & (c): Agriculture is a state subject, and primary responsibility of the state government. Union Government, however, supplements their efforts through various schemes and programmes that, inter-alia; aim at removing market imperfections, increasing production and productivity.

An important recent initiative in this regard include launching of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) portal enabling a pan-India electronic trading, which seeks to network the existing APMCs and other market yards to create a unified national market for agri-commodities. About 250 markets of 10 states have already been integrated with e-NAM and tradable parameters for 69 agri-commodities have been formulated and uploaded on e-NAM portal to assist e-trading.

To address the issue of malnutrition, Government is providing subsidized foodgrains to the weaker and vulnerable sections through PDS under the National Food Security Act.

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